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us our tradition of individual liberty. Being thus a composite, or mosaic, put together from several different sources, the contributions of which could not be perfectly blended, our civilization is of necessity full of inconsistencies. The social confusion which results from these tendencies is especially marked in America. The physical elements involved in the social problem have called forth the new science of eugenics, which offers great promise. Among the economic elements are to be distinguished city life and capitalism, each of which has its dangerous tendencies, particularly the latter through its encouragement of materialism in rich and poor alike. Capitalism, as it now exists, is to be thoroughly condemned. Some form of socialism, in the broad sense, must take its place. Among the spiritual and ideal elements there is so much of confusion, and so many socially-negative doctrines, that a revaluation in nearly every department of life is called for, if civilization is to persist and society progress.

Of the social problem thus presented, Professor Ellwood finds no permanent solution possible. Principles must be discovered which will serve as a constant guide to conduct. The solution can not be by one-sided devices, by external machinery of social organization, nor by revolution. The salutary changes must arise within the human character. The method of securing them is through the education of the young into a proper understanding of, and attitude toward, their social environment. To do this, trained social leaders are necessary, and the development of such leaders is the great need of the day.

The foregoing summary should give an idea of the value of the book, and of its contribution to social science. It remains only to remark that it is well written, interesting, and convincing. The breadth of vision and common-sense attitude which mark all of Professor Ellwood's writing save it from the impracticability and abstruseness which the subject might easily have involved.

HENRY PRATT FAIRCHILD.

Yale University.

The Normal Life. By EDWARD T. DEVINE. (New York: Survey Associates, Inc. 1915. Pp. 233. \$1.00.)

This book is admirably conceived, the author having chosen to disregard the conventional policy of social workers and, instead of discussing existing evils, to present the "positive rather than the negative aspect of life, normal development rather than patho-

logical aberration, healthy participation in organized human activities rather than waste, pauperism, criminality and degeneracy." We need books that present standards of normal life, but the danger of descending into a discussion of abnormal conditions is ever present and escape is difficult. This book occasionally deviates from its apparent purpose, the best illustration being the 12 pages of discussion allowed the "dependent child" who is surely a considerable departure from the normal individual.

The author classifies the life of man into seven divisions and discusses each separately, although he groups the first two, "before birth" and "infancy," together with the topic "parentage" under the general head of "infancy." He urges the need of a good heredity, of proper prenatal care, of a competent home, and of a good mother. An interesting departure from conventional thought appears in the statement that the repeal of bastard laws is desirable, after the substitution of other processes to secure paternal responsibility for the support of an illegitimate child. The social worker would be greatly relieved if a feasible plan for solving this problem had also been suggested.

Childhood is regarded as the special province of education. Mind and body must be fitted to satisfy the wants of man. Those habits and instincts should be encouraged which economize power and promote social welfare. Part of this work, however, must be done in the fourth stage—youth. Child labor laws are needed, vocational training must be given, health conserved, and provision be made for recreation. Mental defect and juvenile delinquency enter at this point for a brief discussion.

At maturity the individual becomes a producer and contributor to the life of the community. Work and home become the absorbing interests. To facilitate the work of social reconstruction the author suggests the complete registration of the entire population, and a general finger-print system. A normal working day is advocated under good sanitary conditions while home manufacture is condemned. A vigorous affirmative statement is made relative to the question of minimum wage legislation. Here, again, abnormal life comes to the surface in a brief but effective discussion of the unemployed and of measures for their relief. Among the recommendations are: employment bureaus, expansion of the work of relief agencies, unemployment insurance, adjustment to seasonal trades, and workmen's compensation.

After showing that marriage is still popular, the author empha-

sizes the need of decent standards of living as well as of wise expenditure of income. He concludes that household management deserves the application of the best brains of the land; nevertheless, he says, wisely, that society must develop community action for the betterment of the home. Abnormal home conditions also receive attention and the following subjects are handled very briefly: intemperance, crime, disease, divorce, desertion, and widowhood.

The working lifetime of the individual must be prolonged; thrift should be encouraged and family responsibility be developed for the obligations imposed by age. If necessary, a well-devised system of social insurance may be established to supplement the need.

The book consists of a series of public lectures and, accordingly, is written in racy English appropriate to its purpose. So short a presentation of "the normal life" is necessarily sketchy and many subjects are scarcely touched. The factor of religion might have received additional space.

GEORGE B. MANGOLD.

The Pittsburgh District: Civic Frontage. (New York: Survey Associates, Inc. 1914. Pp. xviii, 554. \$2.50.)

Wage-Earning Pittsburgh. (New York: Survey Associates, Inc. 1914. Pp. xvi; 582. \$2.50.)

These two volumes complete the six in which are published in book form the findings of the Pittsburgh survey. *The Pittsburgh District: Civic Frontage* consists mainly of articles dealing with general civic conditions, not primarily industrial, published for the most part in *Charities and the Commons* in 1909. The hitherto unpublished material includes an article upon "The disproportion of taxation in Pittsburgh," by Shelby M. Harrison, describing the rather local and hence not generally significant system of classifying real estate for purposes of taxation; a most interesting account by Florence Larrabee Lattimore of Pittsburgh's care of dependent children under the title of "Pittsburgh as a foster mother" which it is to be feared has wide significance and general applicability in many American states; a description of "The new Pittsburgh school system"; and a valuable account of the inception, conduct and significance of the Pittsburgh survey, by Paul U. Kellogg.

The title of the other volume, *Wage-Earning Pittsburgh*, is not particularly appropriate since the four volumes previously published all dealt with wage-earning Pittsburgh. In addition to some